



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Dannhauser et al.

Application No.: 10/021,778

Group Art Unit: 1722

Filed: December 13, 2001

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: FILTER MATERIAL WITH IMPROVED INFUSION CHARACTERISTICS Attorney Docket No.: 10869-007

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

This is in response to the office action mailed September 9, 2003 ("Office Action"), in which the application was examined for restriction purposes only.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner seeks to restrict the claims in to one of three groups. Specifically the Examiner restricted the claims into:

Group I: claims 1-5, 7, and 9, drawn to a filter material, classified in class 442, subclass 414;

Group II: claims 6, 8, and 10, drawn to a coated material, classified in class 442, subclass 59; and

Group III: claims 11-22, 7, and 9, drawn to a process for preparing a filter material, classified in class 162, subclass various;

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement and request either withdrawal or modification thereof in accordance with the discussion below. In order to be responsive, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-5, 7 and 9.

Applicants first note that on page 2, paragraph 2 of the Office Action the Examiner, when providing support for inventions I and II being patentably distinct, states that "[i]n the instant case, the intermediate product is deemed to be useful without a coating as a car cover and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct since there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants." As the Examiner is aware, the claims are